

Robert L. Brooks Case - Trial Field Brief (Utica, NY)

As of: Sunday, October 5, 2025

Venue

* Oneida County Court (Judge Robert L. Bauer), Oneida County Courthouse, 200 Elizabeth St., Utica, NY 13501.

What this trial is

* The State is trying former Marcy Correctional Facility officers in the death of Robert L. Brooks (43), who died Dec. 10, 2024 after assaults inside Marcy on Dec. 9, 2024. Some incidents were captured on body cameras (video without audio).

* Special Prosecutor: Onondaga County District Attorney William J. Fitzpatrick.

Where the trial stands (week of Oct. 6, 2025)

* Jury selection is slated to begin Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, in Oneida County Court (Utica).

* Recent rulings: Motions to block 'duty to intervene' questioning and to bar narration of the silent video were denied. One defendant (Michael Fisher) was severed for a later trial date.

Who is on trial now (Oct. 6 start)

* Mathew J. Galliher - charges include Murder 2, Manslaughter 1, Gang Assault 2.

* Nicholas J. Kieffer - charges include Murder 2, Manslaughter 1, Gang Assault 2, Offering a False Instrument for Filing 1.

* David J. Kingsley II - charges include Murder 2, Manslaughter 1.

Who already pled (and expected sentences)

* Christopher R. Walrath - pled Manslaughter 1; sentenced to 15 years (Aug. 4, 2025).

* Nicholas Anzalone - pled Manslaughter 1; facing 22 years (sentencing scheduled).

* Anthony R. Farina - pled Manslaughter 1; facing 22 years (sentencing scheduled).

* Michael Mashaw - pled to lesser count; facing 3-9 years.

* David K. Walters - pled to lesser count; facing 2 1/3 - 7 years.

* Nicholas J. Gentile - pled to attempted tampering; conditional discharge.

Remaining defendant (separate trial)

* Michael D. Fisher - charged Manslaughter 2; final pre-trial Dec. 19, 2025; trial scheduled Jan. 12, 2026.

Key evidence and issues to watch

* Body-worn camera clips (silent) from multiple officers; prosecutors permitted to narrate what jurors are seeing.

* Medical examiner: death ruled homicide; cause includes compression of the neck and multiple blunt-force injuries.

* DOCCS 2023 'duty to intervene' policy will be an argument point (policy vs. criminal duty).

Schedule snapshot (subject to change)

* Mon, Oct. 6: Jury selection for Galliher, Kieffer, Kingsley; openings to follow once a panel is seated.

* Fri, Dec. 19, 2025: Fisher final pre-trial hearing.

* Mon, Jan. 12, 2026: Fisher trial.

Quick Who's Who

- * Judge: Hon. Robert L. Bauer (Oneida County Court).
- * Special Prosecutor: William J. Fitzpatrick (Onondaga County DA).
- * Incident location: Marcy Correctional Facility (Oneida County).

Daily beats to track

- 1) Jury selection progress (cause challenges; publicity questions).
- 2) Key rulings at sidebar (video, medical testimony, duty to intervene).
- 3) Witness order (investigators, ME, DOCCS officials, video custodians).
- 4) Any plea/sentencing developments in related defendants.
- 5) Timeline reminders for audience (Dec. 9 assaults; Dec. 10 death; trial Oct. 2025).

Sources (for your reference)

- * Times Union (trial preview; 'duty to intervene' explainer).
- * Spectrum News 1 (trial week previews; plea coverage).
- * CNYCentral (motions rulings; severance; special prosecutor background).
- * AP News (special prosecutor appointment; autopsy homicide ruling).
- * NY Courts (courthouse address; Bauer's assignment).

Daily Report Template - Robert L. Brooks Trial

Date: _____ Session: [] AM [] PM Day of trial: _____

Judge/Courtroom: _____ Start time: _____ End: _____

Jury selection status (if applicable):

* Panel seated? [] Yes [] No * Number questioned today: _____ * Cause/for-cause challenges:

Key rulings (motions, objections, sidebars):

* _____

* _____

Witnesses (order and highlights):

1) _____

- Key points: _____

2) _____

- Key points: _____

3) _____

- Key points: _____

Exhibits / Video played (timecodes and narration notes):

* _____

* _____

Jury reactions / courtroom dynamics (notable moments):

* _____

Defense themes today: _____

Prosecution themes today: _____

Logistics for tomorrow (arrival time, expected witnesses, motions to be heard):

* _____

Pull-quotes for social / newsletter (clean and accurate):

* _____

* _____

Links/Attribution to coverage you cite (if any) and your own notes:

* _____